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January 4, 2001

Judge Kollar Kotelly Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice 601 D Street NW Ste 1200 Washington, DC 20530

Dear Judge Kollar Kotelly:

I understand that you are currently considering the merit of the United States Department of Justice's proposed settlement of its antitrust case against Microsoft. I am aware that federal law allows for a period of public comment before you make your final ruling and appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on this important issue.

I recently wrote an opinion editorial in my home state of Kansas in which I outlined several reasons why I am opposed to the continuation of this case by either state or federal entities. I clearly state in this editorial my disappointment that Kansas Attorney General Stovall has not chosen to settle this case.

I have no doubt that this settlement is in the best interest of all involved. Even Microsoft opponents have to admit that this agreement finds remedies for the complaints of the lawsuit. For example, Microsoft will be required to share technical information and requires absolute flexibility of all new Microsoft operating systems. This settlement even creates an enforcement mechanism that Microsoft must answer to if a complaint is filed stating that the company is not following the provisions of the settlement.

There appears to be no reason that this settlement should not be approved particularly in light of our current economic condition. With the current state of our national economy we do not need the threat of more unreasonable government regulations and litigation hanging over the high tech sector which, as you know, has become such an important part of our economy.

Please carefully consider my comments when you are making your decision about this important settlement.

Sincerely,

James W. Mullins, President Kansas Republican Assembly